

Subject: [FWD: RELEASE: MAYOR GARCETTI ANNOUNCES PILOT BUS SERVICE CONNECTING SAN FERNANDO AND SAN GABRIEL VALLEYS]

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Just an FYI for you.

**MAYOR ERIC GARCETTI
CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 29, 2015

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**MAYOR GARCETTI ANNOUNCES PILOT BUS SERVICE CONNECTING SAN
FERNANDO AND SAN GABRIEL VALLEYS**

LOS ANGELES — Mayor Eric Garcetti and The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) announced the launch of the “NoHo to Pasadena Express” pilot bus service to begin on March 1. The service will provide L.A. area commuters with improved access to rail lines and other key destinations in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys.

The new express line will connect passengers to major transit lines in both valleys: the Metro Red/Orange Lines in North Hollywood and the Metro Gold Line in Pasadena. It will also make key stops in Burbank’s Media District and North Downtown Glendale.

“The NoHo-Pasadena Express eases congestion, connects communities, and links workers to jobs,” said Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Second Vice Chair Eric Garcetti. “Creating new options to connect residents to the places and people they love is part of our mission to keep this city on the move. I am proud we have found one more way to do just that.”

Also referred to as Line 501, the NoHo to Pasadena Express operates seven days a week with high frequency – every 15 minutes during peak hours and every 30 minutes during off-peak periods. This reliable service allows riders to depend on Line 501 for getting to and from the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys. Current bus services only run during weekday peak periods and do not operate on weekends.

“This new express bus fills the missing link in Metro’s existing transit network,” said Mark Ridley-Thomas, L.A. County Supervisor and Metro Board Chair. “Now it will be much easier for Metro riders to traverse these two valleys without having to go through Downtown Los Angeles to do so. It’s the latest example of how Metro is revolutionizing transit by fostering better transit connections throughout our county.”

The express bus will utilize the carpool lanes on the 134 Freeway, the main connector between the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys, and will save commuters time,

particularly during off-peak hours. Travel times between North Hollywood and Pasadena are expected to be approximately 55 minutes during peak traffic times, and approximately 30 minutes during off-peak periods.

"By design, this express bus was created specifically to solve the problem that vexes our multi-modal transit riders. It connects bus, light rail, commuter rail, and airport travelers via Bob Hope Airport," said Ara Najarian, Mayor for the City of Glendale, Metro Board Member, and an early champion of the service. "If this line is successful, it could provide the justification we need to consider even greater transit investments in this corridor. I encourage cross-valley commuters to try the 501 and see for themselves how it can make their transit experience better than ever before."

Line 501 will make six station stops: NoHo, Hollywood Way, and Olive Avenue in Burbank, Buena Vista Street and Alameda Avenue in Burbank, Goode Avenue and Brand Boulevard (westbound) and Sanchez Drive and Brand Boulevard (eastbound in Glendale) and the Gold Line's Memorial Park and Del Mar stations in Pasadena. Service will operate Monday through Friday, from 5:30 am to 9:00 pm. Weekend service will run from 6:30 am to 9:00 pm.

"This long-awaited service will provide reliable, frequent, seamless travel between our successful Gold, Orange, and Red Lines for County residents," said Michael D. Antonovich, L.A. County Supervisor and Metro Board Member. "The opening of Metro's latest Gold Line rail extension to Azusa is the perfect opportunity to try out this new service for the first time. Come out and help us celebrate Metro's latest milestone on the NoHo to Pasadena Express."

The line will be evaluated as a six-month pilot project that is expected to cost \$1.2 million to operate. Following the six-month pilot, Metro will review ridership and determine if the service requires any changes. The line is expected to carry 1,750 riders daily. The base fare is \$2.50. Riders can use their TAP card to get two-hour free transfers to other Metro lines.

Other municipal bus operators connecting with the line include the following:

Burbank Bob Hope Airport Connection

The Burbank Bus NoHo provides easy weekday connection to the Burbank Bob Hope Airport to Airport Shuttle, located at Bay 6. The airport shuttle operates every 15 to 20 minutes, 5:30 am to 10:00 pm and the fare is \$1 or free with an EZ Pass. For weekend travel information on connections to the airport, go to www.burbankbus.org/noho-to-airport.

Downtown Burbank Connections

Take Metro Line 155 or Burbank Bus Metrolink/Media District route at the northeast corner of Buena Vista Street and Alameda Avenue to connect to Downtown Burbank and other nearby destinations. Burbank Bus regular fare is \$1 or free with an EZ Pass. For more information about Burbank Bus routes, fare and bus schedules, please visit www.burbankbus.org.

Glendale Community Connections

Transfer to Metro Line 92 or Glendale Beeline Routes 1, 2 and 11 (peaks only) on Brand Boulevard, just north of Goode Avenue, to connect to various destinations in Glendale including Glendale Galleria and The Americana at Brand. Beeline regular fare is \$1 or free with EZ Pass. For more information about Glendale Beeline routes, fare and bus schedules, please visit www.glendaleca.gov.

Local Pasadena Connections

Connections to the Metro Gold Line can be made at Memorial Park and Del Mar stations. Take Metro Lines 177, 180/181, 256, 260, 267, 686, 687, 762, 780, Foothill Lines 187, 690, and Pasadena Transit Lines 10, 20, 40, 51, and 51 to local destinations throughout Pasadena and beyond. Pasadena Transit regular fare is 75¢ and Foothill Transit fare is \$1.25. For more information about Pasadena Transit and Foothill Transit routes, fare and bus schedules, please visit www.cityofpasadena.net/pasadena-transit/ and www.foothilltransit.org.

About Metro

Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that is really three companies in one: a major operator that transports about 1.4 million boarding passengers on an average weekday on a fleet of 2,000 clean air buses and six rail lines, a major construction agency that oversees many bus, rail, highway, and other mobility related building projects, and it is the lead transportation planning and programming agency for Los Angeles County. Overseeing one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is, literally, changing the urban landscape of the Los Angeles region. Dozens of transit, highway and other mobility projects largely funded by Measure R are under construction or in the planning stages. These include five new rail lines, the I-5 widening and other major projects.

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Counting my blessings - Sing and be Happy Today!

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